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## Four Soviet War Heroes Visiting Families in U.S.

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PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 7 — In the eyes of Americans four Soviet war heroes expect to learn what the people of this country think of Russians.

"The best impression of the heart is through the eyes," said Mrs. Irina Levchenko, who commanded an American-built tank in the Soviet Army during the last world war.

"We'd like to see a lot of eyes," she said. "I haven't seen enough thus far, but in the ones that I have seen we were received warm-heartedly."

"Americans," she added, "can be sure they will find only friendship in the eyes of all four of us."

The Russians came to this country for a 12-day visit under auspices of Arms of Friendship, Inc., a nonprofit organization that believes personal contact between people, especially war veterans, may help to further lessen the tension between the two nations.

Besides Mrs. Levchenko, one of the most decorated Soviet heroines of World War II, the group is composed of Lieut. Gen. Viktor Genrikhovich Poznyak, 63 years old, a professor at the Voroshilov Military Academy of the Soviet General Staff. Col. Sergey Aleksandrovich Borzenko, 55, war correspondent, journalist and author, and Civil Gorchakov, a guerrilla fighter who served with Soviet partisans behind German lines for four years.

### Wounded Five Times

Mrs. Levchenko, who is 40, was a Red Cross worker at the start of the war. She carried 168 Soviet soldiers out of one battlefield and rescued 28 from burning tanks before joining the tank corps. She was wounded five times and, in 1962, received the Florence Nightingale Medal of the International Red Cross.

In an interview at radio station WCAU, she took exception to a reference to the war decorations on her suit as "fruit salad." In the Soviet Union, she said, such decorations are taken "seriously" and are held "sacred."

When it was explained that

### Woman Tank Leader Wants 'to See a Lot of Eyes' in Search of Friendship

also was the case in this country, she smiled and commented: "Then we'll see eye to eye."

While in this country, the Soviet veterans are staying in the homes of American veterans with similar backgrounds. Arms of Friendship arranged the visits at the homes of members of the organization.

General Poznyak expressed "great pleasure" at the hospitality that had been accorded

them everywhere. The group was pleased with the broad-minded, friendly questions put to them by their hosts, veterans and others.

Replying to a question concerning the distrust with which some Americans and Russians view each other, the general said of the Russians:

"No other people know so well what war brings to the ordinary people. And that is why they are such staunch champions of peace."

"In America I haven't found any with opinions that differ from my own and in time this artificial apprehension will disappear entirely."

### Common Language

Referring to talks the group had had with American veterans, Mrs. Levchenko said:

"We're very glad that we were able to find a common language in memories of the sacrifices of war and a common desire that war would not be repeated."

The four arrived at the John F. Kennedy Airport in New York last Saturday. After visiting the World's Fair and meeting veterans at Princeton, N. J., on Monday evening, they visited Valley Forge yesterday.

Today they came to Philadelphia for a tour that included historic spots in the Independence Hall area and a visit to the Foreign Policy Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania.

Tomorrow they will visit installations of the Veterans Administration in this city before leaving on Friday for a tour of the battlefield at Gettysburg and a weekend in Washington.

After a side-trip to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis on Monday, they will return to New York for two days of sightseeing before flying home on Wednesday.